

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Shigenobu SATO et al.

Group Art Unit: 3738

Appln. No. : 10/642,756

Examiner: Alvin J. STEWART

Filed : August 19, 2003

Confirmation No.: 3012

For : INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.112**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated November 8, 2006, setting forth a three-month shortened statutory period for response to expire on February 8, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks. However, if any extension of time is necessary, this is an express request for any necessary extension of time and authorization to charge any required extension of time fee or any other fees which may be required to preserve the pendency of the present application to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this Response.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this Response.